

Media Information
April 20, 2013

Ari Hoenig Quartet from New York wins BMW Welt Jazz Award 2013.

The concert series will continue in 2014 following the motto "Sense of Humour".

Munich. Highlight and conclusion of the BMW Welt Jazz Award on Saturday evening was an explosive concert by the two finalists, the Franco-German-Swiss ensemble Samuel Rohrer Quartet – Daniel Erdmann w/ Frank Möbus & Vincent Courtois and the Ari Hoenig Quartet from New York. The ensembles competed against each other before an audience of 500 people at a completely sold-out BMW Welt Auditorium. During the event, the jury selected the quartet of jazzdrummer Ari Hoenig with guitarist Gilad Hekselman, Tivon Pennicott on the saxophone and bass player Orlando le Fleming as the winner of the BMW Welt Jazz Award 2013.

The BMW Welt Jazz Award 2013 celebrated its fifth anniversary following the motto "Leading Drums". From January to March, a total of six renowned international ensembles demonstrated their abilities during Sunday matinees at the BMW Welt Double Cone. During the final concert it was announced that the successful series is to continue in 2014 following the motto "Sense of Humour".

The **jury** under the chairmanship of Oliver Hochkeppel (music and culture journalist of the Süddeutsche Zeitung) and comprising Andreas Kolb (editor-in-chief of the "Jazzzeitung" and the "neue musikzeitung"), Roland Spiegel (music editor focusing on jazz at Bavarian Radio), Heike Lies (responsible for music and musical theatre in the culture department of the state capital of Munich) and Christiane Böhnke-Geisse (artistic director of the Jazzclub Unterfahrt Munich) explained their decision as follows: "The most recent innovations in Jazz come from outside. The Ari Hoenig Quartet plays amazing good old jazz, yet completely anew. Not only old and new blend together here, extraordinary technical precision liaises with deep emotion and warmth. All musicians possess unsurpassed individual strengths, orchestrated by a true 'leading drummer': Ari Hoenig plays the drums as melodic as no other."

Munich Cultural Advisor Dr. Hans-Georg Küppers had the honour of presenting the winner's trophy, which was designed exclusively for the event by BMW Design, to the winning quartet and the certificates to both ensembles. First prize is endowed with 10,000 Euros, whilst the runners up, Samuel Rohrer – Daniel Erdmann w/ Frank Möbus & Vincent Courtois, received prize money of 5,000 Euros.

Maximilian Schöberl, Head of BMW Group Corporate Affairs, was happy for the winning ensemble: "I wish to cordially congratulate the exceptionally talented musicians Ari Hoenig, Gilad Hekselman, Tivon Pennicott and Orlando le Fleming. With their performance this evening they really lived up to the motto "Leading Drums". The BMW Welt Jazz Award has established itself as one of the European jazz scene's most significant prizes and I am happy that we are able to present it to the quartet. I wish to thank all those who participated for their enthusiasm and their commitment to the Jazz Award."

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In 2013, the **audience prize** donated by Schloss Elmau, goes to the Ari Hoenig Quartet. The ensemble receives an exclusive stay at the culture hotel. The final concert and the award ceremony was, as usual, charmingly hosted by Beate Sampson, Bavarian Radio jazz expert and editor, who had also hosted the matinees.

In addition to the two finalists, the ensembles Jim Black Trio feat. Elias Stemeseder & Chris Tordini, Terzic – MELANOIA, Alfred Vogel – Die glorreichen Sieben and Antonio Sanchez Migration took part in the BMW Welt Jazz Award 2013.

The BMW Welt Jazz Award was supported by BR KLASSIK, the JazzZeitung, the department store Ludwig Beck, the culture hotel Schloss Elmau and the Culture Department of the state capital of Munich. BR KLASSIK recorded the matinees and the finale and broadcasts excerpts during its programme.

Photographic material is available from the BMW PressClub (www.press.bmwgroup.com) and via LoeschHundLiepold Kommunikation GmbH on behalf of BMW Welt Corporate and Governmental Affairs (telephone: +49-89-720187-10, E-Mail: bmw-welt@lhk.de).

About BMW's Cultural Commitment

For more than 40 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural cooperations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on modern and contemporary art, jazz and classical music as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Olafur Eliasson, Jeff Koons, Zubin Metha, Daniel Barenboim and Anna Netrebko have co-operated with BMW. The company has also commissioned famous architects such as Karl Schwanzer, Zaha Hadid and Coop Himmelb(l)au to design important corporate buildings and plants. In 2011, the BMW Guggenheim Lab, a global initiative of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, the Guggenheim Museum and the BMW Group celebrated its world premiere in New York. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all the cultural activities it is involved in for granted – as this is just as essential for groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business.

Further information: www.bmwgroup.com/culture and www.bmwgroup.com/culture/overview

The BMW Group

The BMW Group is the leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles in the world with its BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce brands. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 28 production and assembly facilities in 13 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2012, the BMW Group sold about 1.85 million cars and more than 117,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2012 was euro 7.82 billion on revenues amounting to euro 76.85 billion. At 31 December 2012, the BMW Group had a workforce of 105,876 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been built on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy. As a result of its efforts, the BMW Group has been ranked industry leader in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes for the last eight years.

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For questions please contact:

Dr. Thomas Girst

BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs

Head of Cultural Engagement

Telephone: +49-(0)89-382-24753, Fax: +49-(0)89-382-10881

Antonia Ruder

BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs

Cultural Engagement

Telephone: +49-(0)89-382-51468, Fax: +49-(0)89-382-10881

Internet: www.press.bmwgroup.com

E-mail: presse@bmw.de

Gabriele Weber

BMW Welt

Head of Brand Experience

Telephone: +49-(0)89-382-57521, Fax: +49-(0)89-382-57787